

Cannabinoids in breast milk

[Start](#) » [News](#) » [Articles and publications](#) » [Cannabinoids in breast milk](#)

The endocannabinoid system and its receptors are of great importance during prenatal development, but they are also relevant after childbirth. **Not everybody is aware that there are already natural cannabinoids in breast milk and what role they play in the development of a human.**



In 2004, the European Journal of Pharmacology published a study that stated that **all humans are born with cannabinoid receptors**, suggesting that endocannabinoids and their receptors have a strong influence during pre and postnatal development.

Previously, during the 1970's, it was shown that endocannabinoids could be involved in processes related to food and appetite. However, it took 30 years for **endocannabinoids** to be detected in bovine and **human milk**. Shortly thereafter, [CB1 receptors of the endocannabinoid system](#), were seen to develop before week 14 of gestation.

What are the effects of cannabinoids in breast milk?

Based on these findings, researchers decided to investigate whether cannabinoids could be a stimulus for newborns to start drinking milk. The results of these studies demonstrated that the **activation of the CB1 receptors** are critical for sucking milk. This means that the [endocannabinoid system](#) is a fundamental factor for the development of a newborn's appetite, when they are first learning to feed.

Search



Categories

- [AIDS](#) (2)
- [Alzheimer](#) (1)
- [Arthritis](#) (1)
- [Articles and publications](#) (48)
- [ASD](#) (3)
- [Asthma](#) (1)
- [Cancer](#) (9)
- [Cannabinoid News](#) (31)
- [Crohn's Disease](#) (5)
- [Diabetes](#) (1)
- [Epilepsy](#) (8)
- [Fibromyalgia](#) (2)
- [Hyperactivity and ADHD](#) (1)
- [Infographic](#) (2)
- [Kalapa Clinic Events](#) (4)
- [Latest News](#) (31)
- [Legal](#) (7)
- [Medical Cannabis](#) (131)
- [Medicinal Cannabis](#) (67)
- [Mental illness](#) (5)
- [Multiple Sclerosis](#) (2)
- [Pain](#) (9)
- [Parkinson's Disease](#) (1)
- [Refractory Epilepsy](#) (5)
- [Skin diseases](#) (8)
- [Treating symptoms using cannabinoids](#) (46)

However, the **endocannabinoids in breast milk** do not only have food-related functions. These components have also been shown to help protect neurons in the postnatal development of the brain [1].

There is still a great deal to be discovered in relation to **cannabinoids in breast milk**. For example, it is known that cannabinoids adhere easily to fat, which is abundant in breast milk. That is why scientists are currently investigating whether the exposure of cannabis to the mother during the lactation period has any relevance in the transmission of active components in the plant to newborns. However, the process is being slowed down by the difficulties in analysing cannabinoids and fats separately.

So far, researchers have developed a method based on saponification, a process similar to that used to make soap, in order to isolate cannabinoids from fat in the milk. Thanks to this process, different traces of active components of the cannabis plant (such as [THC](#)) have been detected in the milk. From these **findings researchers and trials have suggested that cannabinoids may make the child less susceptible to the psychoactive effects** of the cannabis plant, in comparison to adults. Despite this fact, the effects of these components on infants are still practically unknown, since the current techniques are limited when measuring cannabinoids other than [THC](#) [2].

References

[1] Ester Fride, [The endocannabinoid-CB1 receptor system in pre- and postnatal life](#). *European Journal of Pharmacology*, Volume 500, Issues 1–3, 1 October 2004, Pages 289-297, ISSN 0014-2999

[2] Binnian Wei, James E. McGuffey, Benjamin C. Blount, and Lanqing Wang. [Sensitive Quantification of Cannabinoids in Milk by Alkaline Saponification–Solid Phase Extraction Combined with Isotope Dilution UPLC–MS/MS](#). *ACS Omega* 2016 1 (6), 1307-1313 DOI: 10.1021/acsomega.6b00253

[Uncategorized](#) (5)

Recent Posts

[World Stuttering Day: The Potential of Medical Cannabis in Stuttering Management](#)

[The Role of Pharmacists in Integrating Medical Cannabis into Modern Therapeutics](#)

[Cannabis and Women's Health: Exploring Benefits and Research Insights](#)

Tags

[alleviating stress](#) [anandamide](#) [anxiety](#) [Autism](#) [benefits of CBD](#) [cannabinoid](#)

[cannabinoides](#) [cannabinoid receptors](#) [cannabinoids](#)

[cannabinoid treatment](#) [cannabinoid treatments](#) [cannabis](#)

[medicinal](#) [cannabis medicinal](#) [cannabis plant](#) [cbd](#) [cbdc](#) [chemotherapy](#)

[chronic pain](#) [dépression](#) [ECS](#) [endocannabinoids](#)

[endocannabinoid system](#) [epilepsy](#) [HIV](#) [inflammation](#)

[insomnia](#) [legalisation of cannabis](#) [marijuana](#) [medical cannabis](#)

[medicinal cannabis](#) [menstruation](#) [migraines](#) [nausea](#)

[phytocannabinoids](#) [research](#) [skin conditions](#) [sleep disorders](#) [sport](#) [stress](#) [studies](#)

[synthetic cannabinoids](#) [THC](#) [therapeutic cannabis](#) [treatment](#) [use](#)

[medical cannabis](#)

Follow Us



About Kalapa Clinic



Informationen, die von medizinischen Cannabis-Experten erstellt und geprüft wurden. Alle Veröffentlichungen beruhen auf medizinischer Forschung und mit klinischen Referenzen.

[View all posts by Kalapa Clinic](#)

Posted in [Articles and publications](#) Tagged [cannabinoid receptors](#), [cannabinoid treatment](#), [cannabinoides](#), [cannabinoids](#), [cannabis medicinal](#), [cannabis sativa plant](#), [endocannabinoid system](#), [medical cannabis](#), [planta de cannabis sativa](#), [receptores cannabinoides](#), [sistema endocannabinoides](#), [tratamiento con cannabinoides](#)

< [A daily dose of cannabis can reverse the cognitive decline in the elderly](#)
[Medical cannabis: what is the entourage effect?](#) >

Leave a Reply

You must be [logged in](#) to post a comment.

Subscribe to get the latest news

By clicking subscribe, you are opting in to receive our updates



Kalapa Clinic S.L. is comprised of a multidisciplinary team of doctor and researchers who are all united by wanting to help others through the therapeutic benefits of cannabis. We support the rights of both patient and doctor in deciding the proper treatment and dosage of cannabinoids.



Our Services

[Consultations](#)

Medical Consultations

Barcelona, Spain

[Follow ups](#)

[Services through our association](#)

[Training](#)

Tel : +34 630 109 176

enquiries@kalapa-clinic.com

Central Office Location

Kalapa Clinic S.L.

B66397506

Gran de Gràcia 15, 1º.1ª

08012, Barcelona, Spain

Tel: [+34 630 109 176](tel:+34630109176)

info@kalapa-clinic.com

©2016 - 2025 Kalapa Clinic | All rights reserved

[Legal Notice and Terms of use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Cookies Policy](#)